

PHASE IV DEBRIS REMOVAL SURVEY
Preliminary Environmental Unit Review

Waterway: 7543 Sabine River

NOAA reviewer: Jordan Stout

Date: 30JAN2009

Checklist of Environmental Factors – Assess the potential for impacts to the following resources/areas and coordinate as necessary:

☒ Habitat/environmental sensitivity
Restrict survey to waterway. Do not cause physical damage to wetland shorelines.

☐ Threatened/endangered species

☒ Cultural/historical resources
Removal operations in portion(s) of this waterway may require prior SHPO coordination.

☒ Oyster habitat
Oyster lease areas occur within portions of Sabine Lake.

☒ State/federal/tribal lands
Removal operations within this waterway may require prior coordination with USFWS and/or LDWF.

☐ Scenic waterway

Summary and Conclusions of Environmental Review:

Habitat/environmental sensitivity: ESI map indicates that intermediate marsh habitat dominates the downstream shorelines of the subject waterway whereas aerial imagery indicates that forested freshwater habitat dominates the upstream shorelines of the surveyed reaches.

Threatened/endangered species: ESI maps do not indicate the presence of any Federally-designated Threatened or Endangered species within or along the waterway; though Bald Eagles may nest in larger trees along northern reaches of the river.

Cultural/historical resources: At least one cultural/historical resource site is known to occur within/along this waterway. Removal operations in/along this waterway may require additional coordination with the State Historic Preservation Officer (SHPO).

Oyster habitat: Oyster lease areas occur within portions of Sabine Lake. Operate with caution in lake to avoid running aground on oyster reef. Removal activities shall not impact any oyster lease areas.

State/federal/tribal lands: Sabine National Wildlife Refuge is adjacent to Sabine Lake near the mouth of the Sabine River. If operations will occur near the NWR contact the Southwest Louisiana National Wildlife Refuge Complex staff at (337-598-2216) to coordinate. Also, the Sabine Island Wildlife Management Area is adjacent to the upstream portions of the surveyed reaches along the eastern shore, north of US Interstate 10 (Route 90). Coordinate with WMA staff if operations might impact their resources. Information regarding publicly managed land along the Texas shorelines was not available at the time of this review.

Scenic waterway: Not a scenic waterway.